

**CHARTER COMMISSION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**INITIATIVE POWER AND NEIGHBORHOOD BOARDS TO BE CONSIDERED BY  
THE CHARTER COMMISSION**

HONOLULU, HAWAII, January 20, 2006

The 2005-2006 Honolulu City Charter Commission will consider 26 charter amendment proposals on **Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.** in the City Council Committee Room in Honolulu Hale. The Commission will hear testimony, discuss, and vote on proposals regarding **initiative power, the Neighborhood Commission and Neighborhood Board system, and housekeeping amendments** (see list of proposals below). This is the third of four meetings for the Commission's initial review of charter amendment proposals.

The public is encouraged to attend Charter Commission meetings and provide written and/or oral testimony. Copies of all proposals are available for viewing at Commission office at 711 Kapiolani Boulevard Suite 1485 or the Municipal Library at 558 S. King Street. PDF files of the proposals are also posted on the Commission website, <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc>.

The Commission has already passed a number of proposals on to the next stage of the process. On January 10, 2006, the Commission voted to move forward 9 proposals regarding government ethics, the city budget, and new agencies. On December 13, 2005, the Commission voted to move forward 16 proposals regarding city department descriptions and the planning and zoning process. Voting results are available on the Commission website, <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc>.

Following this first round of voting, proposals will be discussed at islandwide public hearings in March 2006. Ultimately, the selected proposed charter amendments will be placed on the 2006 General Election ballot for voters' approval.

The Charter Commission is a 13-member appointed body responsible for revising the city charter, the governing document for the City & County of Honolulu. The convening of a Charter Commission provides a rare and important opportunity for major changes to city government.

For more information, visit the Charter Commission website at <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc> or contact the Commission staff at 592-8622 or [charter@honolulu.gov](mailto:charter@honolulu.gov).

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## **PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS**

For discussion and voting by the Charter Commission on Tuesday, January 24, 2006  
at 2:00 p.m. in the City Council Committee Room in Honolulu Hale

### **RELATING TO INITIATIVE**

**PROPOSAL 26** - Initiative; Remove the limitation on initiative power regarding levy of taxes.

**PROPOSAL 65** - Initiative; Remove the limitation on initiative power regarding levy of taxes.

## **RELATING TO NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION**

**PROPOSAL 9** - Neighborhood Commission; Establish direct relationship between Commission and Executive Secretary.

**PROPOSAL 10** - Neighborhood Commission; Clarify the policy and policy role of the Neighborhood Commission.

**PROPOSAL 12** - Neighborhood Boards; Recognize that each neighborhood has its own distinctive character.

**PROPOSAL 13** - Neighborhood Commission; Revise the Powers, Duties and Functions of the Neighborhood Commission.

**PROPOSAL 14** - Neighborhood Commission; Give the Executive Secretary non-voting membership on the Commission.

**PROPOSAL 15** - Neighborhood Commission; Specify the Powers, Duties and Functions of the Executive Secretary.

**PROPOSAL 16** - Neighborhood Boards and Corporation Counsel; Provide that Corporation Counsel serve as legal counsel to the Neighborhood Boards.

**PROPOSAL 17** - Neighborhood Commission and Executive Reorganization; Exclude the Neighborhood Commission from the 20-department limitation to the executive reorganization power.

**PROPOSAL 24** - Neighborhood Commission; Clarify the Powers, Duties and Functions of the Neighborhood Commission.

**PROPOSAL 25** - Neighborhood Commission; Clarify and establish the direct relationship of the Neighborhood Commission and Executive Secretary.

**PROPOSAL 37** - Neighborhood Commission and Neighborhood Boards; Various proposals regarding Neighborhood Commission and Boards.

**PROPOSAL 42** - Neighborhood Commission; Clarify the policy and policy role of the Neighborhood Commission.

**PROPOSAL 43** - Neighborhood Commission; Establish direct relationship between Commission and Executive Secretary.

**PROPOSAL 80** - Neighborhood Commission; Various amendments regarding Neighborhood Commission and Neighborhood Boards.

**PROPOSAL 81** - Neighborhood Commission and Civil Service; Place the Neighborhood Commission employee positions, other than the Executive Secretary, within the civil service system.

**PROPOSAL 89** - Neighborhood Commission; Clarify the policy and administrative role of the Neighborhood Commission, require annual report on the performance of the Executive Secretary, and authorize the Commission to terminate upon 2/3rd vote.

## **HOUSEKEEPING AMENDMENTS**

**PROPOSAL 51** - Department of Customer Services; Include the Director of Customer Services as a department head who must be nominated by the Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council, and may be removed by the Mayor.

**PROPOSAL 74** – Department of Customer Services; Include reference to the Department of Customer Services in "Appointment, Confirmation and Removal of Officers and Employees".

**PROPOSAL 75** – Ethics Commission; Include the prohibition against Ethics Commissioners taking an active part in political management or political campaigns set forth in the Hawaii Constitution Article XIV.

**PROPOSAL 76** – Police; Delete prohibition of political activities by police department employees.

**PROPOSAL 77** – Royal Hawaiian Band; Delete the reference to Royal Hawaiian Band in "Appointment, Confirmation and Removal of Officers and Employees".

**PROPOSAL 78** – Civil Defense Agency; Delete the reference to Civil Defense Agency in "Appointment, Confirmation and Removal of Officers and Employees".

**PROPOSAL 79** - Charter Annotation; Technical, non-substantive amendments to provide improved annotation.

**PROPOSAL 84** - Police Department; Repeal prohibition on political activities by members of the Police Department.

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